



# BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM

NYS OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION  
& HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
(518) 474-0479

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

UNIQUE SITE NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
QUAD \_\_\_\_\_  
SERIES \_\_\_\_\_  
NEG. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR NAME: Cynthia Howk DATE: Dec., 1994

133 S. Fitzhugh St.  
YOUR ADDRESS: Rochester, NY 14608 TELEPHONE: 546-7029

ORGANIZATION (if any): The Landmark Society of Western New York, Inc.

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## IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME(S): Thomas House  
2. COUNTY: Monroe TOWN/CITY: Greece VILLAGE: ---  
3. STREET LOCATION: 1498 Stone Road  
4. OWNERSHIP: a. public ☐ b. private ☒  
5. PRESENT OWNER Mr. & Mrs. Gregory Johnson ADDRESS: (same) Rochester, NY 14615  
6. USE: Original: residence Present: residence  
7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes ☒ No ☐  
(partially hidden by hedge) Interior accessible: Explain private residence

## DESCRIPTION

8. BUILDING MATERIAL: a. clapboard ☒ b. stone ☐ c. brick ☐ d. board and batten ☐ 2nd-  
e. cobblestone ☐ f. shingles ☐ g. stucco ☐ other: asbestos shingles;  
roof-asphalt shingles. foundation -brick veneer. 1st-wood clapboards.  
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM: a. wood frame with interlocking joints ☐  
(if known) b. wood frame with light members ☒  
c. masonry load bearing walls ☐  
d. metal (explain) \_\_\_\_\_  
e. other \_\_\_\_\_  
10. CONDITION: a. excellent ☒ b. good ☐ c. fair ☐ d. deteriorated ☐  
11. INTEGRITY: a. original site ☒ b. moved ☐ if so, when? \_\_\_\_\_  
c. list major alterations and dates (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

(see continuation sheet)

12. PHOTO:

13. MAP:

"Ah, someone is painting it up to bring out its details. It has some asbestos on the 2nd story and wood on the 1st story. They've obviously made an effort to improve it. It's a 'green plus.'" P.Malo.

COLOR CODE

Green plus





14. THREATS TO BUILDING: a. none known ☒ b. zoning ☐ c. roads ☐  
d. developers ☐ e. deterioration ☐  
f. other: \_\_\_\_\_
15. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS AND PROPERTY:  
a. barn ☒ b. carriage house ☐ c. garage ☒  
d. privy ☐ e. shed ☐ f. greenhouse ☐  
g. shop ☐ h. gardens ☐  
i. landscape features: deciduous & coniferous trees/shrubs  
j. other: creek to west (rear) of house
16. SURROUNDINGS OF THE BUILDING (check more than one if necessary):  
a. open land ☐ b. woodland ☐  
c. scattered buildings ☐  
d. densely built-up ☒ e. commercial ☐  
f. industrial ☐ g. residential ☒  
h. other: \_\_\_\_\_
17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:  
(Indicate if building or structure is in an historic district)

(see continuation sheet)

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE (including interior features if known):

(see continuation sheet)

SIGNIFICANCE

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: c. 1890s - 1902

ARCHITECT: not determined

BUILDER: not determined

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

(see continuation sheet)

21. SOURCES: (see continuation sheet)

22. THEME: residential/agricultural: former truck farm & residence.



11c.

The second and attic stories have been covered with asbestos shingles (over wood cladding), mid-1900s.

Front porch steps and attached railings have been recently rebuilt, c. 1993-94.

Contemporary roof vents added at the ridgeline.

17. The Thomas House is located on a 1-acre lot on the west side of Stone Road in the southeast quadrant of the town. The driveway is located to the south of the house. Behind the house to the southwest are two outbuildings: a contributing cast concrete block, two-car garage and a contributing small, frame barn. The house is set back from the road and is partially hidden from view by a 8'-plus-tall privet hedge along the front sidewalk. There is a large lawn to the west and north of the house. Paddy Hill Creek cuts through the property behind (to the west of) the house. Although there are scattered late-19th and early-20th century homes nearby, the surrounding neighborhood is mostly post-World War II housing. A c.1950s housing tract borders the property to the west.

18. Two-and-one-half-story, frame house featuring a gabled roof with lower cross gables. Beneath the eaves of the roof is a narrow, frieze band. The large front gable projects out over the second story and has gable end returns and a Palladian type window. The house is sided with wood clapboards on the first story and asbestos shingles on the second and attic stories. The house sits atop a brick veneered foundation (probably over fieldstone).

Fenestration is regular and repetitive with 1/1, double-hung wood windows. Matching cutaway window bays are located on the north and south elevation. A staircase window with stained/leaded glass is located on the north elevation. The large picture window on the facade has a stained/leaded glass transom and is flanked by two 1/1, double-hung windows.

The facade (east elevation) has a full-width, hipped roof front porch with spindled balustrade, brick piers with round columns above, square newel posts with round finials, and original wood screens (with square lattice insets) below the porch floor. The gable on the front porch features an inset

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18. continued

with bas relief cartouche and foliate designs. The original front door, in the north end of the facade, has a recessed wood panel in the lower part with glazing in the upper half. It is flanked by a stained glass side light with recessed wood panel below.

The contributing small barn is a gabled, frame building with horizontal, shiplap, wood siding. The contributing cast concrete block, two-car garage retains its original wood doors and small-pane windows.

20. Built c. 1890s-1902, this house is architecturally significant in the town of Greece as an outstanding example of turn-of-the-century domestic architecture with both Queen Anne and Colonial Revival influences. The house is also historically significant for its association with the early-20th-century truck farming industry and residential development in the Stone Road area of Greece.

The design of the house exemplifies the transitional nature of architectural design at the beginning of the twentieth century. The house possesses a high level of integrity of design, craftsmanship, and materials.

Queen Anne inspired characteristics include the asymmetrical floor plan, gabled roof with lower cross gables, bay windows, decorative porch gable inset, contrasting wall textures (wood clapboard, probably shingles in the 2nd and attic stories - now covered with asbestos shingles), stained/leaded glass windows. The cornice returns in the gable ends, the round porch posts, and the Palladian gable window are influences of the Colonial Revival.

The architectural significance of the house would be enhanced if the asbestos shingles were removed and the original wood siding was repaired/re-painted.

The intact small barn and the concrete block garage add to the period integrity of the setting. They both retain a high degree of design, materials, and craftsmanship. Surviving early-20th-century outbuildings are becoming more rare in the town and are important as they represent a former way of life.

The 1872 county map shows this property as lot 79. A small

20. continued

building is shown (predecessor to the present house?) and "M.Irwin" is listed as owner.

The 1902 county map shows this house for the first time. Because of its distinctive design and scale, it is a building that could have been constructed only after 1890. The creek is shown to the rear of the house. The property is shown as a 12-acre parcel owned by William Thomas. No other buildings are shown on the site. To the south is the 63.55-acre property of Hy. C. Whittlesey.

The 1924 county map shows this property as an 11-acre parcel owned by William Thomas. It is a long, rectangular site, 240.37-feet-wide by 1,965-feet-deep. Three frame houses are located facing Stone Road - the house at #1498 is the largest; two smaller houses are located to the north. Behind the homes is a complex of four, long, attached greenhouses and five frame outbuildings (one of which is the surviving small barn). To the south is the 62-acre property of Henry C. Whittlesey. To the north and east of the property is land owned by Edwin and William Scorse.

The property continued to be owned by the Thomas family into the 1930s. The 1930 suburban directory lists #1498 Stone Rd. with William J. and Christina Thomas here; he is listed as a market gardener. The directory also lists Frank and James Thomas here (both are "gardeners"). To the immediate north are William and Alameda Thomas at #1482; he is also listed as a "gardener." It appears that this property was run as a family truck farm/garden business. Ray Goethals of 3330 Mt. Read Blvd reports that there were many truck farmers and greenhouses in this neighborhood in the early-20th century. Born into a truck farming family on Mt. Read Blvd. in the 1920s, he reports that there were a number of greenhouses in the Stone Road area.

The 1959 county map shows this property as a parcel 300-feet-wide by 311-feet-deep. Four buildings are shown: the house, the garage, the small gabled barn and another frame outbuilding (no longer extant) to the west of the garage. Paddy Hill Creek is shown behind the house. The post-World War II development "boom" in the town is evident here, with

the establishment of new housing tracts. Along the western boundary of the property is the Stone Ridge Garden housing subdivision. The property across the street to the east is still owned by the the Scorse family.

21. See final report for bibliography; phone interview with Ray Goethals, 1/1995.





